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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

9-15-1949

Justice (Vol. 31, Iss. 18)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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Keywords

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Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. XXXI, No. 18-

Jersey City, N. J., September 15, 1949

Price 10 Cents

Leading Liberal Candidates

LEHMAN



Robert F. Wagner, Jr., Liberal Party nominee for Manhattan Borough President, surveys 16-size portrait of another Liberal candidate, former Gov. Herbert H. Lehman, who is seeking the post of U. S. Senator from New York.

New Pact Hikes Piece Base Rate in Atlanta Market

A market-wide collective agreement covering the dress shops of Atlanta, Ga., has been renewed for a three-year term, it is announced by Vice Pres. John S. Martin. The renewal was achieved after many weeks of negotiations, according to

Joe Lee Walden, regional organizer. Significant gains in the new contract include a boost in the base rate for piece work shops, as well as a broadening of health insurance benefits. Other improvements were made in clauses pertaining to seniority practices, pay for reporting to work on time, and vacation and holiday benefits.

The Atlanta dressmakers are further protected against future upward movements in the cost of living by a contract clause permitting them to reopen wage negotiations annually, or semi-annually if the cost of living has risen 5 per cent or more.

The new contract covers 12 shops of which eight are affiliated with the Atlanta Dress Manufacturers Assn. About 600 members of Local 132 are employed in these shops.

**REGISTRATION
BELL-RINGER
SQUADS FOR
LIBERAL PARTY
NOMINEES
READIED BY ILGWU**

—See stories pages 3, 5

Superior Court Hits L. A. Pact Violators

TOBIN WILL CHOOSE ARBITER IF 'LEADER' AND UNION DISAGREE

U. S. Secretary of Labor Maurice Tobin has notified the Southern Western Office and the Ladies' League Garment Co. of Minneapolis, Minn., that if the two parties fail to agree upon an arbitrator by Sept. 17, he will use his authority to name one.

The dispute between the union and the Minneapolis firm involves a lockout charge. Under terms of the collective agreement, the Secretary of Labor is empowered to select an arbitrator if the disputing parties are unable to do so.

Betty Maid Relents

After a boycott of several months, employees of the Betty Maid Co. in McLeanboro, Ill., have returned to work following the union's announcement that it was prepared to change the company with looking out its workers and to demand full back pay in their behalf.

Betty Maid, which operates a plant in Henderson, Ky., as well as in McLeanboro, had claimed that it had an insufficient volume of work to keep both plants operating. At a conference on Aug. 22 the union insisted that the McLeanboro workers receive their share of the work.

The offensive waged by the Los Angeles sportswear contractors' association against the Los Angeles Joint Council has ended in a complete victory for the union, Louis Levy, ILGWU Pacific Coast director, reported last week.

The rout of the contractor association's leadership occurred on Sept. 2 when California Superior Court Judge Arnold Prager denied a plea for an injunction that would have forced union members to work against their will in factories which had violated the association's collective contract and might have tied up the health and vacation funds operating under that contract.

The efforts of Murray Dubow, the

director of the association, to bypass the arbitration procedure provided in the contract and to ignore the industry's impartial chairman were thwarted by the union's drastic counter-measures intended to bring all recalcitrant contractors before impartial Chairman O'Rourke without delay. Justice Prager's ruling, which swept aside Dubow's attempt to invoke the (Continued on Page 3)

Portsmouth Promoters Disown Own Injunction

The injunction issued in Portsmouth, Va., at the request of the Portsmouth Industrial Foundation, Inc., enjoining ILGWU Organizers Murray Markoff and Ralph E. Frost from "interfering" with the operation of the E. Z. Thread Co., was dissolved and the suit was dismissed on Aug. 26 by Judge Edward L. Goss.

After hearing the evidence presented in court in defense of the union organizers, the foundation itself, in the person of its attorneys, moved for dismissal of the

suit and dissolution of the injunction.

The Portsmouth Industrial Foundation is a local booster group formed for the purpose of attracting industry to the community. It had raised a fund of \$250,000, half of which was earmarked for building a plant to house E-Z Thread Co., a New York firm which recently stole away from the city after its contract with Local 142 expired last May.

When the firm turned up in Portsmouth, the ILGWU Upper South Department immediately launched an organization drive. Vice Pres. Charles Kronmiller, assigned Organizer Markoff and Frost to the case. But no sooner did these two appear in Portsmouth than the move began to file complaints against them and later to get an injunction restraining their activities.

In the middle of August, three complaints were dismissed by Judge Goss. H. Renshaw after learning in which it was shown that workers had been intimidated into filing the complaints. One witness even admitted that she had signed a complaint at the suggestion of the wife of the E-Z Thread treasurer.

The ILGWU is charging before the National Labor Relations Board that E-Z has committed a number of unfair labor practices. Preparations are being made for the hearings, expected to get under way this month.

Because of the severity of Virginia's anti-labor laws, national AFL headquarters in Washington has followed the ILGWU case with great interest. A communication from AFL Attorney J. Albert Weil pledges continued interest by the national body when NLRB hearings begin.

"Rookie of the Year"



Phila. Dress Joint Board PHILADELPHIA

Samuel Otto Manager

The membership of the Philadelphia Waist and Dressmakers' Union was paid an annual dividend amounting to \$326,104 in June by the Philadelphia Joint Board.

In a report received by Vice Pres. Samuel Otto, it is noted that this total represents welfare payments made to 8,977 members. The individual benefit checks averaged \$32.08.

Six hundred and twelve members received the maximum payment of \$65, minimum payments of \$25 were received by 1,949 members.

"These welfare payments," Manager Otto declared, "are only one example of the benefits and economic protection workers can provide for themselves through organization into a strong union."

"Needless to say, at a time when the national economy is struggling to maintain an even keel and avoid the chaos of another depression, the community benefit resulting from the timely injection of more than \$320,000 into the city's financial blood-stream is incalculable," he stated.

B. H. Friedman is chairman, and Theodore Aptaker, secretary of the Welfare Benefit Payments Committee.

\$88,377 in Health Benefits

The Health Insurance Fund proved a true friend to more than 1,600 members of the Dress Joint Board faced with financial difficulties in 1948 arising out of accidents, illness and disability.

The fund's annual report, made public by Manager Samuel Otto shows a total of \$66,896 was paid in sickness benefits to 1,185 members. Hospitalization benefits totaling \$16,029 were paid to 460 members, and a total of \$5,459 in surgery benefits was paid to 219 members.

Benefits of all types paid during 1948 totaled \$88,377.

This figure all but overshadows the impressive total for 1947 when

"The theory of the Wagner Act, was that strong labor unions represent one of the greatest bulwarks of democracy. The theory of the Taft-Hartley Act is that strong labor unions are a menace to America's economy and safety." — Sen. Francis Meyer (D., Pa.)

'155' Renews Plaza Agreement; Strike Wraps Up Marathon

A successful strike at one knit-goods firm and the threat of strike action at another preceded the winning of two new union agreements in the knitgoods industry recently, Manager Louis Nislen reports.

"Authorization" of a strike was voted by the Local 155 executive board and the workers of Plaza Knitting Mills when negotiations for a new contract bogged down as the expiration date of the old agreement approached. However, a last-minute conference with the company, resulted in an agreement which substantially granted most of the union's demands. The new pact has been ratified by Plaza workers.

The strike at Marathon Clothing was settled with several outstanding issues referred to the impartial chairman. After hearing both sides, the arbitrator granted practically all union demands.

Chest X-Rays in Connecticut



Michael Moroni (left), shop chairman, leads workers of Jerome Garment Co., Middletown, Conn., into mobile chest X-ray unit as part of anti-tuberculosis campaign sponsored by Connecticut Dept. for all its members. Murray Edelstein, business agent, is at right.



Significant increases in membership and major improvements in working conditions were reported by Montreal delegates attending the four-market Canadian conference, which was held in Winnipeg on Sept. 11 and 12. While separate reports were given by representatives of each Local, General Organizer Bernard Shane drew an over-all picture of the great strides made by the entire Montreal organization since last year's conference, and summarized the problems still to be solved.

"A full report of the Winnipeg conference will appear in next issue of 'Justice'."

Since the end of the war, Shane stated, there has been a considerable gain in union membership in this area. The dressmakers' union now numbers close to 7,500 members, while over 1,900 are enrolled in the Clockmakers' Union and 400 with the embroidery workers, making a total of over 9,800 organized garment workers in Montreal.

These gains, he pointed out, were also reflected in the number of shops which are under union jurisdiction in Montreal. Currently, there are 230 union shops in the dress industry, 86 in cloaks, and about 25 in embroidery.

Despite stiffened resistance on the part of the employers to union requests, contracts were obtained with the cloak and suit industry and the embroidery industry providing for a dues check-off system and several additional holidays with pay. Also, a two-weeks' vacation with pay was obtained in the embroidery trade, and the clockmakers are awaiting the impartial chairman's decision on a similar benefit for them, Shane stated.

One of the major problems confronting the Montreal organization is the large amount of homework still being performed in the dress industry. Tens of thousands of dresses, he disclosed, are still being made in homes, despite government regulations concerning such work.

Montreal clockmakers' representatives cited improvements won recently in regulations governing the

Health Fund, the Vacation Fund, and the Retirement Fund. The biggest problem faced by the clockmakers' organization, they reported, was the large number of small unorganized contracting shops still remaining. However, it is expected that the union's efforts to organize these shops will record more progress now that another business agent has been added to the staff of the Clock Joint Council.

Substantial contributions were made by the clockmakers for overseas relief and rehabilitation projects through the Hudson Trust and the Jewish Labor Committee.

Many of the conference delegates are now in Calgary, representing the ILGWU at the annual convention of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress. The ILGWU delegation, headed by General Organizer Shane, will participate actively in shaping the decisions of this crucial convention, which will discuss ways of combating and eliminating Communist infiltration from the Congress and normalizing relations with the American Federation of Labor.

ILG Tries to Assemble Set on Short Notice

ILGWU members in New York who are interested in visiting the United Nations General Assembly when it convenes the last of this month are asked to give their names to the ILGWU Educational Department so that they may be notified when a union trip is planned. Since the assembly does not always meet on Saturday, no definite date can be set in advance but members will receive word a day or two before a trip is scheduled.

Your Week of GOOD LISTENING

A LIBERAL LOOK
AT THE NEWS
6:30 P.M. nightly
except Sunday
featuring

ROBERT NATHAN
Every Tuesday
Noted economist who brings you economic insights into the news from the nation's capital.

MARQUIS CHILDS
Every Wednesday
Enjoy the exciting Washington commentary by the brilliant columnist of the N. Y. Post.

MRS. RAYMOND CLAPPER
Every Thursday
Renowned author and lecturer continues her late husband's devotion to frank reporting.



MONDAY TO FRIDAY
2:00 UN Today
2:15 Rendezvous With Music
2:30 Rendezvous With Music
3:00 Symphony at Three
3:15 Symphony at Three
3:30 Symphony at Three
3:45 Symphony at Three
4:00 Concert Showcase
4:15 Concert Showcase
4:30 Waltz Time
4:45 Public Service Program
5:00 News; Across the Footlights
5:15 Across the Footlights
5:30 A Matter of Style
5:45 It's A Wonderful Town
6:00 Latin Americana
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Local 10 Cuts Hospital Clothing for Palestine

An "emergency squad" of cutters from Local 10 is working at top speed to answer an SOS from Israel for hospital garments and clothing needed to serve medical institutions of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, and 150 other welfare agencies in Israel.

Receiving an appeal from Mr. Robert Shaul, chairman of the Hadassah Supplies Bureau, Local 10 sent an advance work party to the group's warehouse on Sept. 4 to lay out 25,000 yards of material which will be made up into 15,000 hospital gowns, coats, and trousers and sport suits for boys and girls. Other squads will work in relay until the cutting is completed.

According to Abe Dolgin, business agent of Local 10 who headed the lay-out team, the move was made so that nearly 50,000 Hadassah supply workers in 1,500 chapters in 48 states may start sewing and finishing the garments required before winter sets in.

"The organized cutters of America want to help build the health line in the Jewish State in this way," he said. Dolgin was assisted by Bill Weiss, Irving Kaplan, Max Buewack and Adolph Soson, business agents of the garmenters.

Hadassah has been providing hospital supplies, working clothes and other types of garments for men, women, and children, as well as sheets, pillow cases, towels and medical items to its own institutions and 150 others for the last 25 years. These include orphan asylums, youth hostels, immigrant camps, welfare stations and homes for aged, crippled and disabled.

"The need for clothing was so crucial in Israel," Mrs. Shaul said, "because of the influx of 200,000 new immigrants within the past year."

"Most of them arrive with only the raggs they carry on their backs," she stated. "In addition, their physical condition is such that hospital bed equipment, not only in Hadassah institutions but every where else, is the highest in the history of the land. All their clothes send are new. Wherever possible, we tailored the new work clothes of sewing circles which join in Israel in 48 states."

"The gifts to the United Nations of the world's newest democracy are not charity. No second-hand garments are ever sent. We are as one more way in which the citizens of the world's greatest republic can be the citizens of the world's newest free state that we stand behind them, to help get them on their own feet."

Kreindler Honored By Officers Before Leaving for London

Vice Pres. Charles Kreindler departed by plane for France on Sept. 10 on the first leg of a journey which will take him also to London and Italy. During his stay in the British capital, Kreindler will attend the Congress of the International Garment Workers' Federation, which will begin on Sept. 18. At a send-off dinner sponsored by the Local 25 executive board on Sept. 6, Pres. David Dubinsky reviewed Kreindler's many services to the international labor movement.

One of the reasons for the collapse of the international organization of free trade unions after the war, Dubinsky declared, was the failure to organize the different trades on an international level. Now, he said, such organizations are being set up preparatory to the formation of a new international labor organization in November.

Other speakers at the Local 25 dinner included Business Agent Nathan Pogran and Local Chairmen Chas. Franco. On Sept. 10, the ILGWU General Executive Board held a luncheon for Kreindler.

CHICAGO FUNDS PAY \$85,000 IN HEALTH BENEFITS 1ST YEAR

During the first year of operation, the Cloak and Dress Health Fund of the Chicago Joint Board paid out over \$85,000 in benefits to members of affiliated Local, it is reported by Vice Pres. Morris Bialis, manager of the board.

Of this amount, \$58,300 was paid in sick benefits to 722 members, and 380 of these received an additional \$11,500 for hospitalization. During this same period, from June 1, 1948 through June 30, 1949, the supplementary death insurance plan paid \$14,600 to members' beneficiaries.

Sick benefits are paid in the amount of \$15 weekly for a maximum of 15 weeks within a year, while \$4 a day is paid for hospitalization for 10 days. The funds also pay \$20 to members afflicted with tuberculosis.

In addition to sick benefit and hospitalization payments provided for both dressmakers and cloakmakers, the cloak unions recently obtained an added \$50 a year surgical benefit and \$15 for eye care.

The joint board is currently negotiating with the Chicago Association of Dress Manufacturers to win the same for workers in the dress industry.

The dress and cloak health funds are maintained through contributions by the employers of 1 percent of production workers' payroll, and are administered jointly through Boards of Trustees on which the employers and the union are both represented.

Joint board representatives on each of the funds are Morris Bialis and Harry Mosier. Employer representatives are Harry Minsky and Deider Sobel for the Chicago Association of Dress Manufacturers; Harry Elsborg and Max Wymislow for the Chicago Cloak and Suit Manufacturing Assn., and Joseph Greenstein and Samuel Rieger for the United Dress Manufacturers and Independent shops.

Off to International Garment Workers' Congress



Bidding a fond farewell to Vice Pres. Charles Kreindler (fourth from right) before his departure for London to represent ILGWU at International Garment Workers' Federation meeting are Pres. David Dubinsky (center) and executive board of Local 25, of which Kreindler is manager, Mrs. Hannah Haskel Kreindler is at Dubinsky's right. (See story.)

CONTRACT WITH RAIN ASSN. NEAR; TRADE ENTERS ITS STRIDE

Negotiations are in the final stage for the signing of a collective agreement between Local 20, Waterside Garment Workers, and the Rain Apparel Contractors' Assn., it is reported by Manager Joseph Keeler.

The agreement when completed will be the first between the rainwear workers and the Contractors' association and is being heralded as a major step toward further stabilization of the industry. Heretofore, only individual jobs have been negotiated between the union and members of this group. These agreements expired July 31. Since that time several conferences have been held between the two parties. These resulted in the formation of terms similar to those contained in the individual agreements. Negotiating for the union, in addition to Manager Keeler, were David Mason, chairman of Local 20, and Attorney Elias Lieberman. Negotiators for the association included John P. Gilbert, 801 Herkner, Eugene Berkes, and Benny Rosen.

Manager Keeler reports that the rainwear industry, especially in the lower priced lines, has hit its full stride.

An Editorial

Lehman—An Ideal Successor

Former Gov. Herbert H. Lehman is campaigning for election as United States Senator to fill the seat left vacant by the recent resignation of Robert F. Wagner from the upper national legislative chamber.

Four times Governor of New York State and a top administrator, Herbert Lehman's reputation as one of the leading Americans of this generation is firmly established on a national level. His broad, humanitarian outlook on world affairs, admirably reflected during his two years of directorship of UNRRA—United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration—shortly after the war, is matched by a record of authentic liberalism in domestic affairs.

To the members of the ILGWU in New York this opportunity to vote for Herbert Lehman as U. S. Senator from our state is doubly precious. It was Lehman who, as a member of a Special Advisory Commission appointed in 1924 by the then Gov. Alfred E. Smith to resolve the basic difficulties in the cloak and suit industry, was instrumental in establishing firmly the principles of full job responsibility for outside shops and the "designation" of union contractors.

The Lehman candidacy on the Liberal Party's ticket is a "natural," fitting in colorfully with the decisive role this party is bound to play in this election and with Lehman's great liberal record and prestige. Lehman's election to the Senate should strengthen the liberal cause not only in New York but all over the land. A more ideal successor to the seat held for 22 years by "Bob" Wagner can hardly be imagined.

Local 9 Sets 6 Rallies For Liberal-Fusion Slate

A series of city and borough-wide meetings in behalf of Liberal Party and Fusion candidates in the current municipal campaign in New York City was announced this week by Vice Pres. Harry Greenberg, manager of Local 91, covering the entire membership of the children's Dress-Bureau.

Local 91's Liberal Party campaign will lead off with a mobilization meeting of the local's first-line activities—shop chairladies, executives and press committees, on Sept. 23. After work—by the Roosevelt Auditorium, 30 East 17th St. It will be addressed by Neuwirth Morris, Liberal and Fusion majority candidate, Harry Dwyer, candidate for Controller, and Judge Matthew J. Dierna, candidate for City Council president.

Five section meetings will be held through October in the Roosevelt Auditorium with an average attendance of 1,500 expected, Greenberg stated. On Oct. 5, after working hours, the first section meeting will be addressed by former Gov. Herbert Lehman, candidate for U. S. Senator, and Robert F. Wagner, Jr.

An Ohio committee will inaugurate the need for a disability unemployment insurance fund and will make recommendations to the next state assembly.

Beautis Employees Stage Walkout as Result of Firings

Organizing activity in the Beautis Foundations plant, 6004 Fourth Ave., Brooklyn, came to a head last week when a large majority of the workers walked out and threw a picket line around the premises.

The stoppage occurred after the Beautis management dismissed several employees who were active in behalf of Local 22, Cosmet and Beauty Workers. To all practical purposes production in the plant came to a standstill with the walkout of its sewing department.

Meanwhile, Local 22 filed a complaint with the regional office of the NLRB charging the firm with unfair labor practices. A hearing on the charge is expected at an early date. Local 22 Manager Abraham Snyder stated.

Mollain Welcomed by Civic, Labor Notables

Vice Pres. Edward Mollain, manager of Local 48, was given a testimonial dinner on Sept. 14 at the Commodore Hotel on his return from Italy.

Government notables and labor leaders joined officers of ILGWU locals in paying tribute to the cloak leader. A full report of Mollain's experiences in Italy will appear in the next issue of "Justice."

JUSTICE

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Getting Plastered



Finishing touches being applied to newly remodeled New York Dress Joint Board headquarters, 218 West 40th St. New arrangement will provide more room for business agents, accountants and other departments. Showing supervising the operation are (left to right) Nick Jones, building superintendent, and Nathaniel Krieger, joint board secretary-treasurer. The plasterer is Carmine Scicchella.

Israel's Many Cultures Clash, Hochman Finds

As important as its ability to build a balanced economy will be the Israeli government's efforts to cope with the tremendous social problems arising from the clashes of cultural backgrounds represented by the vast numbers of immigrants streaming into the new democracy from all parts of the world. Vice Pres. Julius Hochman reported to the Dress Joint Board on Sept. 7 after a visit to France, Italy, Greece and Israel.

In France, Hochman attended the international congress of World ORT organizations for Rehabilitation Through Training together with Vice Pres. Harry Winder. During his stay in Italy he visited the Carlo Treves Home for orphans of anti-Fascist war victims. The institution is supported by Local 89 Italian Dressmakers. After Hochman completed his report, First Vice Pres. Luigi Antonini paraphrased a separate account given him by the dress union's general manager of the work he saw being done at the school.

Hochman, however, dealt mainly with what he had seen in Israel in his report to members of the board. He described the economy of the kibbutz which is the organization for collective work in both agricultural and industrial enterprises in the new nation. He told of the educational work in the kibbutz and added that as with other groups in the economy, the cooperatives sponsored their own schools and welfare work.

Data Zimmerman Got in Carolinas Aids in Mapping Organization Goal

Vice Pres. Charles S. Zimmerman has returned from a one-week visit to North and South Carolina, where, in the company of Vice Pres. John S. Martin, he toured garment areas in Greenville, Columbia, Waynesville, Spartanburg and other cities. The visit stems from the current organizational drive of the New York Dress Joint Board. While there, Zimmerman conferred with a number of Southeast Department staff members.

In his return Zimmerman declared that the purpose of these conferences and visits was to acquaint himself thoroughly with the status of the garment industry in the southern states in order to place the phases of the unionization drive being directed from New York. This purpose, he said, has been achieved by his one-week stay in the South. Zimmerman noted that in many places he found workers employed under substandard conditions. The enactment of new national wage legislation to boost the minimum wage to 75 cents an hour, eliminating many years of effort by the ILGWU and other trade unions, is expected to have a very beneficial effect on the wage structure of southern garment plants, he said.

LOCAL 22 EDUCATION DEPT. OFFERS WIDE CHOICE OF CLASSES

Seven classes on a variety of political and cultural subjects will be featured as the 1949-1950 educational program of Local 22, Dressmakers' Union, it is announced by Jo Manuz, the local's political and educational director.

Arthur Younger of the National Labor Relations Board will give a course on "The Worker and Modern Society" on Mondays at 6.

Headline news and current events will be analyzed from the trade union point of view by Simon Beagle on Thursdays at 6. There will also be a course on "Problems of Everyday Living," details of which will be announced later.

A class in English for Spanish-speaking members will be conducted on Wednesdays at 6.

Under the direction of Elizabeth Rose, a group will meet on Thursdays at 6 to rehearse performance of political sketches.

Relating methods of reducing unemployment will be featured in the course labeled "Unemployment on Wednesdays at 6. For those who are enthusiasts of social dancing, Rene Duherry will conduct a class on Thursdays at 6. The same hour will include a group devoted to Spanish folk dancing.

All classes and educational groups start during the week of October Applications and information are available at the Local 22 Educational Department office, 218 West 40th St., 6th floor.

in what the Mapai, the Mapam and the HaPo do.

The first of three groups received 51 per cent of the vote. It rules by coalition and enjoys the major support of the HaPo.

In matters of foreign policy, the Mapam parallels Soviet Russian policies. The Irgunists, openly reactionary, would open democratic appeals to less educated immigrants should the economy of the new nation take a downturn.

"Hochman warned that the present government which he found to be honest and realistic must for this reason receive the full support of all outside aid organizations.

At Morris Campaign Kickoff



Giving their complete attention to Newbold Morris' "keynote address" in his campaign for Mayor of New York City are Raymond Massey, noted actor who introduced the Liberal Party Fusion candidate, Mrs. Massey, and Harry Ulliver, the party's nominee for Controller. The speech, delivered at the Actor Hotel on Sept. 7, was broadcast over five New York stations, including WFDR, the ILGWU's own FM outlet.

DRESS JOINT BOARD

N. Y. DRESSMAKERS

Dressmakers' Hall Antonini and UDC On Unity Weekend

Close to 1,000 New York dressmakers at Unity House over the week-end of Sept. 9 joined in paying homage to one of the union's outstanding leaders and to the hundreds of rank-and-file members who render unsung services to the organization. Through excellent programming, the week-end was made a joint celebration of the 60th birthday of Luigi Antonini, completion of his 30 years as general secretary of Local 89, a preliminary anniversary of the Italian Dressmakers' organization and the annual outing of the Union Dancers Committee.

The UDC is composed of hundreds of staunch unionists who, on a voluntary basis, control the garment area of New York, serve as building chairmen, and, through their vigilance in general, defend the standards of the market.

Festivities at Unity House began Saturday morning with a special broadcast of "The Voice of Local 89" from the Unity Social Hall. Included on the radio program was the lively singing of ILGWU anthems and a happy birthday salutation by the huge audience.

Vice Pres. Julius Hochman, general manager of the Dress Joint Board, paid warm tribute to the building chairmen whose efforts, he declared, are essential to the maintenance of union standards. He told how during his recent trip to Europe he visited the Carlo Treves School for war orphans near Rome and declared that he had only praise for the Italian American Labor Council which led in assuming support of this institution.

Vividly moved by the warm demonstration in his behalf, Vice Pres. Antonini began his talk by exalting the members of the UDC. In turning to current political developments, he declared that he found John Foster Dulles maintaining "an equidistant position among the members of the UDC in terms of reform as well as on such important international problems as the shaping of an Italian peace treaty.

On the other hand, he continued, the stand of ex-Governor Lehman, whom he characterized as "an old friend of proven sympathy to our union," has been very clear. "As far as I am personally concerned," Antonini stated, "I will enthusiastically give my vote to elect our old friend Herbert H. Lehman for Governor from New York. I will do so with serene confidence because I regard Mr. Lehman as the best of our local politicians. I will vote for Lehman on the Liberal Party line."

The Saturday night concert, especially arranged for the celebration, was comprised of four acts of grand opera, one each from "La Traviata," "Aida," "La Boheme," and "Cavalleria Rusticana."

During a break in this program Assistant Secretary John Gelo introduced Pres. David Dubinsky who reviewed the many years of Antonini's service to the ILGWU and the labor movement in general. From the start Antonini has been a credit to the ILGWU and the American Federation of Labor, Dubinsky stated.

The ILGWU chief was particularly proud to note that the celebration of Antonini's birthday was combined with the annual testimonial to the union's rank-and-file laborers. He pointed out that such devotion exemplifies the profound event to trade union ideals that permeates the ILGWU structure from the shops to the highest levels of leadership.

The celebration concluded with a midnight birthday party at which many congratulatory messages to Antonini were read. The concluding greetings from Giuseppe Saragat and other Italian labor leaders as well as trade union officers in this country.

Trade Union Officials to Attend Deborah Ceremony

A new building of the Deborah Battalion at Brown Mills, N. J., will be dedicated Sept. 18 at 1:30 P.M. Charles S. Zimmerman, chairman of the Deborah Jewish Taborhood Society, will head a group of trade union representatives including officers of the ILGWU locals who will attend the dedication ceremonies.

Local 60 Dress Process General Membership Meeting MON., SEPT. 19 8:00 P.M. Report on conditions in the Trade by Manager Max Cohen.

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Will Allen

WASHINGTON, D. C.—If Washington is forward-looking these days, it's mostly in the sense of looking forward to 1950. All thoughts, all planning, all hopes seem to run in that channel, as though people were looking forward to some Judgment Day. In some ways it is almost as though 1949 ended with this year, and it has been 1950 ever since. That is the "feel" of Washington, and through it, a thrill of excitement that is unusual in the normally blasé Capital.

The core of the excitement is in what is patiently and painstakingly being constructed by far-sighted men—a farmer-labor political alliance that promises to be the Big Story of 1950.

That hint originates the real objective behind the big 12-state conference on "Land, Water and Jobs," which will bring representatives of labor and farmer-political alliances all the western states to San Francisco on Sept. 18 and 19.

The conference was planned on a grand scale by Bill Boyle, Jr., new Democratic National Chairman. Half the President's Cabinet will head the featured call—the President, Governor Dewey, Sen. Charles McNary, Labor Secretary Tolson, Agricultural Secretary Brannan, Interior Secretary Krug, Commerce Secretary Sawyer.

Boyle is sharing the spotlight with what will be the heads of labor's big political organizations—AFL Political Director Joseph P. Kamp, CIO Political Action Chairman Jack Kroll, the Railway Brotherhoods National Director J. Anderson McNamara, the National and Political Director Al Hayes.

The games make big news. Add to the above juggernaut all the Democratic Governors, Senators and Representatives of the 12 western states, and one point seems to assure the forging of an organizational coalition of accomplishment. That is, the grass root delegates from the local farm and labor organizations will come to San Francisco from all over the 12 western states will go home improved with the fact that cooperation between farm and labor organizations has the blessing of the highest political authority in the Democratic Party, beginning with President Truman. In fact, more than mere blessing . . . it's party line.

In short, President Truman and Bill Boyle are putting behind the San Francisco meeting all the personal enmities within their capacity to assure the forging of an organizational coalition of the farm and labor organizations.

It is in organizational method that one can see an important difference between the way in which President Roosevelt worked and the way President Truman is working to achieve the same end result—political support for the presidency.

On the whole, President Roosevelt maintained separate ties of communication between himself and the farm and labor organizations. There was no real effort to bring the farm and labor organizations together as one unified operation.

That job was left for President Truman to attempt, and that is the effect on which he is now re-enchanted.

And if anything further was needed in the way of persuasion, it was provided in the theme of the San Francisco meeting—"Land, Water and Jobs"—illustrating the mutual dependency of labor, agriculture, land conservation, irrigation and public health—electric power, all in one package.

The San Francisco meeting is not an isolated routine. Similar large regional meetings are in the planning stage for the industrial states, and for the mountain states. They will follow the example

of the western states, and will be the first of a series of such meetings.

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of the western states, and will be the first of a series of such meetings.

The fog gives faces to the lamps
And writhes takes back again;
Now its Beauty and Mystery
Upon the throated lives of men.

Upon the darkness of their days
The thick night lies with magic
grace,
Their eyes peer through the mist;
They build
A dream around each passing
face.

Their dark stars shine beyond the
veil
That lies upon the hidden skies.
But now they seek and never see
The hanger in each other's eyes.

They find an earth dissolved in
dreams,
Through which this phos of
lingering creep;
They find a lost and distant world,
Faint with a grace that does not
keep.

At the big farm state conference in Des Moines last April, President Truman made a special point of repeating the need for a farm-labor coalition in his Labor Day speech at Des Moines. Five days later I saw a further dramatization of the farmer-labor theme, when Agriculture Secretary Brannan and CIO Secretary-Treasurer James B. Carey joined me in a Washington radio interview, which was broadcast over the IOWA's station, WFDR, in New York City.

It was Secretary Brannan who took the lead, in answer to my questions, in stating the necessity for cooperation between the nation's farmers and organized workers. And, unless my aging memory is playing me tricks, Brannan is the first Secretary of Agriculture in our history to conduct an educational campaign among the farmers to teach them that labor is agriculture's natural friend and ally.

In taking this line, Secretary Brannan is engaging in a great struggle with Allan B. Kline, Republican president of the Farm Bureau Federation, whose "line" is that farmers and labor are mutually antagonistic. Kline, for instance, in the forthcoming exposition of the Brannan Farm Plan, designed to maintain price supports for farmers but to allow farm products to go to market at their competitive price so that city workers can buy the food at lower prices.

Carey also supported Brannan in this point of view, illustrating not only the unanimity which exists while farm and labor representatives are given an opportunity to meet and discuss their mutual problems, but Carey was able to illustrate further how much time and energy labor already has put into studying farm problems, and how much further advanced labor is today on the road to farmer-labor cooperation.

Secretary Brannan freely granted that labor is ahead in understanding at this point. But he pointed out that the farmers are catching up, as demonstrated by the large number of farm state Congressmen who supported the effort to repeal the Taft-Hartley Law, to pass the Minimum Wage Bill, the Public Housing Act and other measures backed by labor.

Farm-labor coalition obviously will not be forged overnight. But men like Secretary Brannan, Bill Boyle, President Truman and American labor leaders are patient men, and, having started early, they have more than a year ahead to finish the job of creating the Big Story of 1950—and the years to follow.

"The Hinge"



1949-1950
COLLECTIVE
BARGAINING

MOVIES

By MAX PRESS

Marcus Morton

"WHITE HEAT" is a grand-scale gangster film which easily ranks with "Scarface" and "Public Enemy" as a killer-diller classic. Handled with great cinematic skill, it builds up high-pressure excitement all the way to a crashing climax which gratifyingly demonstrates that "you can't win" against the forces of law and order.

The story centers around a brutal gang leader whose cruel streak stems from his half-bred as a "mammy's boy"—an emotional complex which erupts in blindingly painful paranoias. These are the signals for now, and increasingly audacious, onslaughts against his enemies, real and fancied, including his wife who receives a virtually convulsive shock on several occasions. Among the gang's major feats are a train robbery and jail break which are carried out on a split-second time-table, thereby keeping the audience poised on the edge of their chairs.

The story is perfect as the embodiment of vicious destructiveness, with extraordinary support by Virginia Mayo as his voluptuous

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September 15, 1949

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B FROM

—Miriam Spiceland

THE VITAL CENTURY, By Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr. Houghton Mifflin Co. \$2.

An inspiring and challenging effort to remove much of the ambiguity of contemporary political behavior is made by Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. In this book which is bound to become the volume mecum of all genuine liberals in this country—by ringing terms that draw their strength from careful reasoning rather than from clever rhetoric, the author examines the politics of freedom.

It has long been the traditional boast of the liberal that the number of infants and children under five years of age will continue at a high level until 1950 and thereafter off gradually but will remain at or somewhat above the 1940 total.

The number of girls 5 to 14 years of age will increase substantially between 1947-55 and then decline to about the 1947 level.

The number of women 20-44 years of age who increased substantially from 1940 to 1947 will remain at or about the latter level until 1955 and thereafter register a sharp upward trend.

The number of women 50 years of age and over will continue to increase at a very rapid rate. The number of potential consumers of apparel in the various age groups at different periods is an important, but not the sole factor in estimating potential sales volume. General economic conditions, purchasing power, the limits within which sales promotion activities can function.

A significant trend indicated by the data on changing age patterns is the growing proportion of persons, female as well as male, in the higher age brackets. This may have an important bearing on the style of apparel. It may require greater emphasis on conservative styles and result in a shift in size distribution. There may be a greater demand for "suits" and "age suits" since waistlines and hips tend to thicken with age.

The report also tells the number and percentage of the female population residing in urban and rural communities in 1940 and 1947. Since women in urban communities purchase more goods than in rural communities, this trend merits attention by garment makers.

Between 1940 and 1947 the urban female population increased 31.9 per cent as compared with an increase of 27.7 per cent in the rural female population. This trend was reflected in data showing a rise in urban female population from 38 per cent of the entire population in 1940 to 60.3 per cent of the entire population in 1947.

Among the rural female population, the trend was from rural farm to rural non-farm communities. In 1947 63.3 per cent of the rural population resided in non-farm communities as compared with 48.2 per cent in 1940.

From this it appears that the future welfare of the garment industry will continue to be determined by two forces beyond its ability to control: weather and population changes.

Transmutation

By HAYA KRASCOFF

Plausible, I entreat you, World.

the war stations of

These fear and hate-begotten passions to tam;

And to harness like some strong war horses, game

To break the ground for the needed seed of love.

liberal heritage in its immediate political manifestations as well as in the larger framework of a civilization made rootless through the advance of science and industrialism.

It speaks with the confident voice of youth, the authority of scholarship and the courage of free thought, for an America where the triumph of liberalism must ultimately cause the prison walls of police states everywhere to come crashing down.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, By Hans Kohn. The Macmillan Co. \$2.50.

Mid-way in the century the world finds itself torn between forces of integration and those which threaten to tear it apart. In a useful summary of the path we have come in the past 50 years, Dr. Kohn reaches back to 1848. He is thus able to place in perspective those developments accentuated by the turn of the century but whose origins are to be found in the Nineteenth Century.

The heritage of disintegrated forces of that century included nationalism and the usurpation of the place held by reason by the newer cult of force. To the older traditional challenges coming out of Russia and Prussia, our own century has added its own problems of imperialism, racism, fascism, national socialism and communism, each of which Dr. Kohn examines with refreshing insight and knowledge.

In surviving and struggling Western democracy, now puzzling itself the ways of cooperation and federation, he finds the foundations of a better future being laid. "Foundations for a new stage of Western civilization which will outgrow the narrowness of absolute nationalism and restore the faith of Western man in liberty and his armor for peace."

"It Ain't Mental—It's Dental!"



**Good Books Are Friends
You Can Always Have
With You**

True literature reflects the thinking and condition of the times. Great writers appeal to the heart as the mind. Books keep you informed and add to the enjoyment of life.

The ILLUW Educational Department Book Division will help our members choose such books and will also contribute generously toward the purchase cost of their selection.

SHANNON

Our nation can boast, justifiably, of being able to mount the greatest war machine the world has ever seen in the shortest time the world has ever known. But it cannot build schools for its children.

When the need was evident, the war engineering and construction teams in the country laid flexible tubes on the bed of the English Channel, built vessels of concrete on the assembly line, boosted fortresses across the ocean, and did all that human beings could calculate and do to meet the incalculable. But it appears that in peacetime, or on matters connected with the welfare of the civilian population, even precisely calculable dangers.



gers are beyond this nation's ability to cope with.

It was statistically demonstrable five years ago that in the school year 1940-50 there would be an increase of at least 750,000 in the number of boys and girls registered in this nation's schools. The actual increase has exceeded that amount. Over 840,000 more are registering this year than last year, but no provision has been made for them. We have provided neither teachers nor classrooms, nor new school buildings. The only practical thing we have done so far is to propose half sessions and staggered terms.

This is a disaster. Even impoverished nations have made better peacetime provision than this for their children. There is no excuse whatever for our failure to do so. We cannot plead that we were unaware of this problem, that it crept up upon us while we were busy with other things. We knew it.

was going to happen. We were warned by competent statisticians. Even the insurance companies told us—to within only a decimal point of error—how large our child population of school age would be in 1949.

Of greater importance than the material education which our children are now going to get, because of our failure to prepare facilities for them, is the question of why we failed to make preparation. For, if our failure reflects a weakness in our entire approach to official and social matters, it is likely that we took stock of our methods and overhauled our procedures.

In matters military, laxness of this sort would not be tolerated. If it were shown that 800,000 young men had joined the Army and, because of a shortage of barracks space, were sleeping two to a bunk and from lack of weapons were short of rifles and bayonets, there would be a House investigation that would tear the hides off those responsible for the men.

There has been no such House investigation over this much. Three children to a desk, the taller and the stronger standing against the classroom wall throughout the class period, the actual failure to enroll teachers in some communities, and the actual failure to enroll even one school child in the nation, have gone unmentioned in Congress and in most state legislatures. The real problems of government have been interpreted by every mother in the nation, are going unmentioned.

Our youngsters are a sort of citizenry the political leaders of this country expect to raise with an educational system so strictly and inadequately planned that the national and state governments fail to prepare our youngsters for growth into good citizenship, what sort of Americans will we expect?

Today that question should be asked by every parent in the country. Dr. Earl J. McCullis, United States Commissioner of Education, warned that many boys and girls are going to be "shortchanged" in education because of overcrowding in half sessions. That means that the future America is going to be shortchanged will be an undereducated populace which has done little more than go through the motions of receiving an education.

Behind the failure of government to make provision for a predictable need lies the very same attitude that prevented this country from providing houses for its returning veterans. The sign who has before the dollar sign apparently regard even elementary education as a symptom of the "growing welfare state," and therefore to be postponed as a material fruit.

The SOUTHWEST

Meyer Perlstein
Southwest Regional Director

Lowenbaum Gives On Holiday Benefit

The Southwest District has scored important enforcement victories at the Lowenbaum Manufacturing Co. of Missouri and Illinois and at the Texas Tiny Frocks in San Antonio where the union's interpretation of a contract clause pertaining to vacation benefits was challenged.

Lowenbaum Manufacturing Co. Arbitration proceedings instituted by the Southwest District were withdrawn after the company agreed to pay eligible workers in its plants an additional day and a half holiday pay for last Christmas and New Year's Day. Workers had previously received a half day's pay for the two holidays. Agreement on the additional compensation was reached at a conference on Aug. 24. The plants are in St. Louis and Cape Girardeau Mo., and in Mounds, Red Bud and Sparta, Ill.

Texas Tiny Frocks. The union last month notified this firm that vacation benefits to which its employees are entitled should be disbursed before the end of the present vacation season, and that they should be paid in accordance with the terms of the agreement: one week of benefit for those employed from one to five years, and two weeks for those of five or more years of service.

The firm had earlier announced it had no intention of adhering to this basis. The union in turn advised immediate payment of the benefit in order to avoid litigation.

On Aug. 26 the company informed Rebecca Taylor, manager of the San Antonio Joint Board, that it would comply with the agreement in paying out vacation money. **Strandholm Garment Co.** This firm in West Frankfort, Ill., has been notified by the union that it failed to include in its calculation of vacation pay the 7 per cent and 10 per cent bonus added weekly to earnings of piece workers. The union is prepared to begin arbitration proceedings if the additional compensation is not paid without delay.

Meer Manufacturing Co. This Marietta, Ill., firm has been cautioned about its failure to pay workers for several legal holidays and its delay in making payments to the health fund.

Annulmer Garment Co. Denial by

ONE LOCAL OFFICER REHIRED; 2ND CASE WAITS ARBITRATION

One of two ILGWU local presidents recently discharged by Illinois garment firms is to be rehired at the union's insistence, but the second case apparently will have to go to arbitration, the Regional Office has announced. Both were fired for allegedly interfering with the operation of their respective shops.

To be rehired is Barbara Benajovich, president of Local 444 in St. Louis, who was discharged by the Co-Ed Frocks Co. Still to be decided is the case of Verta Braden, president of Local 394 in Hilliers, who was employed by the Rice-Stix Dry Goods Co. Both girls are operators.

The Co-Ed management agreed to rehire Barbara Benajovich after workers held a special meeting to determine how they would protest her discharge.

Earlier, Ann Bresnahan, a member of the Southwest staff who is servicing the shop, attempted to communicate with the head of the Co-Ed firm in St. Louis. She was told that the firm's officials had gone to New York. When workers in the plant learned of this reply they immediately arranged a special meeting for Aug. 31. Shortly thereafter the firm found it expedient to communicate with the union, and the emergency meeting ended as soon as the promise of re-employment was extended.

New K.C. Dress Company Gives Union Green Light

A collective agreement has been signed with Jenny Garments, Inc., a new Kansas City dress firm. The pact was negotiated for the union by Sam White and provides wage, welfare, and working terms similar to those included in agreements with other dress firms in the area.

Union Urges Wages Be Pegged to Skill At New Tenn. Shops

Negotiations for a collective agreement with two new cloak firms in Greenfield and Dresden, Tenn., were continuing in St. Louis last month. The union was represented by Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein, Emilie Heinatz and May Tarpley; the Greenfield Garment Co. by Frank Pines, Jr., and the Western Garment Co. by Milton Rosenfeld.

The union is arguing that minimum wage scales and wage increases be based on skill and productivity. Inasmuch as the workers involved are new to the trade, the agreements must provide a sched-

Better Supervision in S'West Shops Needed

The importance of proper timing and careful supervision in introducing new production methods is highlighted in two cases recently brought to the attention of the Southwest Regional Office.

In one case, an important dress firm in St. Louis has been charged with introducing a system of section work without having first made suitable preparation for this change. The union contends that the new system is neither necessary nor suitable for the production of the highly styled, medium priced junior dress made by the firm. It further points out that persons

put in charge of production under the new system lack adequate training. The result has been great confusion in the shops, for which the workers pay sooner or later, and the development of a number of inefficient operations due chiefly to the fact that the volume of units produced in each style has fallen off as compared to war time.

As has been the case with other firms attempting this change without sufficient preparation, the St. Louis shop is suffering from the production manager's efforts to get greater output and profit under the new system. Instead of re-examining plant layout, work routing, production methods, sales programs, cutting and bundling and other necessary operations, this firm representative seems to be seeking illusory economies through the replacement of experienced workers with inexperienced ones.

Needless to say Southwest officers feel that the damaging consequences of such behavior will be felt not only by the workers but by the company as well.

Southwest Shorts

Half of the \$137.84 raised by Local 444, Staunton, Ill., for special purposes has been donated to the community's hospital fund.

Janita Sanders was elected a delegate from Local 436, Zeigler, Ill., to the convention of the State Federation of Labor, to be held in Springfield, Sept. 26.

Local 471, West Frankfort, Ill., elected Miss Pringle as its delegate to the local Community Council. A \$25 contribution was voted for the campaign against polio.

Representatives on the sick benefit committee of Local 467, Benid, Ill., have been selected from all communities where local members live.

Ann Wiklund was named for Staunton, Mary Atkabaugh for Carlinville, and Clara Akers for Benid.

A \$10 wedding gift was voted by the executive board of Local 122, St. Louis Cotton Dressmakers, for Arlene Schmidt-Henson, an active member.

Local 397, Cape Girardeau, Mo., voted to have an ILG float in the Labor Day parade sponsored by the Central Labor Union.

A large group of members of Local 234, Washington, Mo., attended the Municipal Opera in St. Louis last month.

An NLRB hearing on the objections and complaints filed by the union after the last plant election at the Boland Manufacturing plants in Winona and Wabasha, Minn., was held in Winona last month. Emily Greinhelm of the legal staff and Colvin Street of the organizational staff represented the union.

Pressers in Kansas City cloak and dress shops met on Aug. 29 to discuss the advisability of establishing a pressers' branch. Heretofore, all pressers have been members of locals composed of the various crafts—pressers, operators and finishers.

Use of wage increases which will compensate the workers for improved skills and protect them against increasing living costs.

ILG Dept. Called In

In another instance involving a large Texas garment firm, the ILGWU Management-Engineering Department was called in to study the reason for a drop in production and in workers' earnings. In this case the union had charged that production management was at fault.

The results of the department's survey of the plant were presented by Marie Pote of the Management-Engineering Department at a conference on Aug. 24, and the firm has promised to take steps in line with her recommendations.

The survey found the major source of trouble were: (1) that the time studies had been made and compiled by people who lack the necessary training and experience for such work; (2) that the psychological approach of the plant management to both the workers and the supervisory employees is not such as to promote harmony and obtain the most satisfactory results; (3) that the production schedule is poorly planned, causing frequent transfers of operators, and resulting in increases in the firm's labor costs and reductions in the operators' earnings; and (4) that the shop is kept in a state of tension and antagonism because of the constant use of abusive language

Boosting the ILG Union Label at Minneapolis AFL Show



ILG's Dolores Johnson, Evelyn Hermansen and Michael Finkelstein (standing center) exhibit union-made dresses at AFL union label show held at Minneapolis recently. Increasing numbers of consumers groups throughout the country are asking

for the ILGWU label in order to identify quality garments produced under proper working conditions. At its last meeting the General Executive Board of the ILGWU approved renewed support of a label.

Happy Ending



Shop committee of Active Sportswear Co., Worcester, Mass., showing receiving copy of union contract won at conclusion of two-week strike. Standing (left to right) are Lou Glickman, organizer, Harold Nash, Angelo Grico and Paul Steele. Seated are Theresa Dante, Amelia Andrews and Mary Lyons.

Union Victorious at 3 Harrisburg Area Plants

The report of the first agreement negotiated by Local 101 with the Yorktown Dress Co. of York, Pa., is featured in a summary of recent organizational and enforcement activities prepared by Michael Johnson, manager of the Harrisburg District. Under the contract, the 50 workers employed will enjoy for the first time a number of paid holidays, two weeks of paid vacation and rest periods. Piece rates will be adjusted upward to correspond with those in effect in other shops in the region. Business Agent John Juntin joined Manager Johnson in negotiations.

New Marbar Plant

A short organizational drive was all that was necessary to organize the Marbar Manufacturing Co. that its employees in the New Bloomfield plant desired to be represented by the ILGWU in the same manner as are the workers in the company's older plant in Harrisburg. A contract covering workers in the new plant contains such standard provisions as: higher minimum piece-rates uniform with those in the older plant, six holidays with pay, a health and welfare fund and other benefits.

Margaret Hoover participated in the drive and in the negotiations. The new pact is effective as of April 1.

Lykens Talks Progress

Negotiations are proceeding with the Lykens Mills of Lykens, Pa., a contractor employing about 100 workers in the manufacture of blouses. The ILGWU made several attempts to organize the Lykens workers but until now the effort was unsuccessful mainly because management of the shop changed hands several times. During this period of instability the union sought to obtain other employment for the workers involved. However, indications are that current negotiations will result in a standard union agreement.

Success at Puritan

The threat of a shop stoppage action before the impartial chairman finally persuaded the owners of Puritan Foundations, manufacturers of brassieres in Portage, Pa., to settle the union's claim for back pay for the 90 members employed in the Pa. plant.

Notwithstanding the fact that an agreement was signed following a bitter 12-week strike last spring, the management continued its efforts to evade its responsibilities and threatened the workers with closing of the plant. The workers were undaunted, however. As a result, a

ALLENTOWN KNITTING CONCERN LINKED TO PETER POLLY IN N.Y.

The Northeast Department is continuing its drive to uncover the hidden connections between various firms in the garment industry so that both contractors and jobbers can be held to their responsibilities under collective agreements.

Last month, with the aid of the ILGWU Legal Department, it was found that a common and intertwined interest existed between a firm providing the Nelson Knit Unit Undergarment Co. of Allentown, Pa., with work and J. O. Freyberg Co., which has a collective agreement with the ILGWU. That part provides that Freyberg work must be made in union shops and this provision was used to intimidate unionists of the Nelson firm.

Similarly, with the prompt aid of Vice Pres. Harry Greenberg, manager of the Children's Dressmakers' Union in New York, the Northeast Department discovered that a direct relationship exists between the Perfect Knit Co. of Allentown, Pa., and the Peter Polly Tops. The latter firm manufactures children's wear and has an agreement with Local 91. Through the New York firm conferences were arranged with Perfect Knit in the office of Vice Pres. Greenberg last month and other meetings have been scheduled.

"We are anxious to have these inter-firm relations clearly established on the record so that failure to meet contract obligations, whether willfully or through oversight, may be avoided," Director Gindgold stated.

Eight dairy companies own 71 per cent of the net capital assets of the dairy industry; four control 69 per cent; two own 49 per cent.

NORTHEAST DEPARTMENT

David Gindgold • Director

Northeast Parley Examines Effects Of 75c Minimum

A full-dress discussion of the effects of a Federal 75-cent minimum wage law took place at the all-day staff conference of the Northeast Department on Sept. 12. The examination of the probable consequences of the wage boost was led by Vice Pres. David Gindgold, the department's

First Health Chat Tells How to Keep Fit in "Dog Days"

The Health and Welfare Department of the Northeast Department has issued the first in a series of "Health Chats" which is being distributed through the department's health centers free to members.

The chats, prepared with the aid of the medical center director, will be issued at regular intervals. The first one is devoted to suggestions on "How to Keep Fit During Dog Days," and succeeding leaflets will deal with the common cold, shop safety and other health topics.

Novelty Sport Renewal Brings Higher Minimum

The collective agreement with the Novelty Sport Co. of Wind Gap, Pa., has been renewed. It is reported by Grace Starnes, Eastern District manager. Among the gains included in the new contract are a higher minimum rate and a 4 1/2 per cent contribution to the health and welfare fund.

form labor organizations, to join or assist Local 249, ILGWU.

The three discharged workers were Joseph Marchese, Rose Alia and Augustine Emma.

Garment workers throughout the Wilkes-Barre region have been encouraged by this decision which has served as a direct stimulus to the organizational drive now in progress. News of the decision, together with summary accounts of collective contracts recently negotiated in the area, is being circulated by the ILGWU among the remaining non-union shops.

NLRB Rebukes Pittston Appare for Sacking 3

A decision of major importance to the garment workers in the Wilkes-Barre, Pa., area is represented by a notice posted on the wall of the Pittston Apparel Co. of Pittston, Pa.

This region has been the scene of a vigorous organizational drive in recent months. Early in April when the ILGWU sought to organize the Pittston company the firm fired three of its workers. The Northeast Department charged immediately that the three employees had been dismissed because of their union activities. The department filed charges of unfair labor practices against the company, claiming that workers had been grilled and intimidated by the firm.

At that time the Wilkes-Barre office of the Northeast Department told the workers that even though they were being mistreated in this manner, they would ultimately obtain redress when the union brought the case before the National Labor Relations Board.

On Aug. 23 the NLRB issued its decision over the violation of James H. Housen, Almy Murdoch and J. Copland Gray. The company is directed to reinstate the three workers immediately and to compensate them in full for all wages lost during the period they were out of work.

In an accompanying stipulation the firm agrees to the following:

Not to threaten employees with loss of employment or benefits should they assist, become or remain members of Local 249, ILGWU, or engage in or continue to engage in concerted activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection.

It's Hi, Ho, Go to the Fair



Everyone seems to be in favor of new contract with Lile Mills, Allentown, Pa., which provides for five paid holidays, including half day to visit annual Allentown Fair and another half day for elections.

Staff members also considered a number of matters pertaining to health and welfare benefits, proposed organizational drives, new tactics made necessary by recent legislation and rules and first steps in building the national campaign that will reach their peak this November.

All participants in the minimum wage discussion applauded the effort to lift the level from 40 cents to 75 cents-a move which represents nearly twenty years of campaigning by the ILGWU and other trade unions. However, there was some question as to how this change in the basic minimum will affect wage structures in Northeast plants.

Several speakers recognized the fact that in most shops in the Northeast jurisdiction the level of the minimum wage was of only theoretical importance, inasmuch as most of the workers were receiving salaries far above that mark.

On the other hand, a number of managers now conducting drives to organize garment plants which operate on a slim margin of profitability expressed the opinion that in these cases the new minimum might have drastic effects. Very often, it was stated, the solvency of such enterprises depends almost entirely on the firm's ability to deliver all workers wages to the minimum level. Penalties for this practice, such as complaints, sometimes result in the loss of the business.

The consensus was that the department would have to watch carefully the effects of the instituting of the new minimum—now in its final legislative stage—and then forge its own contract policies on the basis of these observations. In many cases, firms had been encouraged to anticipate the new minimum by beginning now to review piece-rate structures and policies. Staff conferences will continue to determine a new union minimum, traditionally higher than the legal minimum, which the department will seek to incorporate in its collective agreements.

Sidney Handler, attorney for the ILGWU in Pennsylvania, and Martin P. Gluskin, ILGWU general counsel, reviewed recent court and NLRB cases in the Northeast Department. They told how much time can be saved in such cases through the careful keeping of evidence, affidavits, statements, and depositions how this was to be done.

Gus Tyle, ILGWU political director, advised the staff members that solicitation of financial support for candidates and parties in the coming elections is outside the ban of federal law inasmuch as all centers will be on the state or municipal level.

Field Supervisor Jack Halpern summarized recent contract negotiations.

I. L. G. W. U.

EDUCATION

250 GUESTS FLOCK
TO DAILY LECTURES
ON LAWN AT UNITY

The daily lecture-discussion program conducted this past summer at Unity House, ILGWU variation report in the Pocomo Mountains was one of the most extensive carried on in several years. Dr. William Warha was in charge of this and other cultural activities.

The lectures, held out on the lawn by the library building each morning, attracted approximately 250 ILGWU members and other guests at each session.

Among the vast number of topics covered during the summer were the following: India, psychology and psychoanalysis, Negro problems, civil rights, inter-group relations, FEPC legislation, accomplishments of the 81st Congress, public education, Israel and the Near East, the United Nations, DP problems, housing and social government.

Labor problems also formed the core of several talks including discussions on the international labor scene, labor political action and minimum no-labor relations.

Distinguished speakers were Rep. Jacob Javits, Dr. Felix Steinhilber, William Aar, Rex Rapp, Dr. L. M. Burkhead, Dr. C. D. Dover, Mark Shervin, David I. Auer, Dr. M. Jacob Javits, Chairman, Mark Starr and others.

Education Center
Reopens Sept. 29
At Textile High

The ILGWU Education-Recreation Center starts its fall season at Textile High School on Sept. 29 at 6:30 P.M.

A special symposium has been arranged for the opening of the center. Dr. Henry David of Queens College, James T. Parrott, noted author, and Prof. Harry J. Carmant, dean of Columbia College, will give their views on the leading problems facing the world today.

Each Thursday night during the winter the center conducts a forum-discussion hour on current topics of interest to trade unionists. This is followed by a recreation period in the gymnasium and swimming pool.

Textile High School is located on West 18th St. between 8th and 9th Aves.

The Voice of
Local 89
Every Saturday

Symphony Orchestra and
Opera Singers of International
Fame

Luigi Antonini

First Vice President, ILGWU,
and General Secretary of Local 89
in his weekly comments on labor
and political events.

EVERY SATURDAY MORNING
From 10 to 11
on EASTERN HOOK-UP
WJLV (1230 Kc.) New York
WJLA (1340 Kc.) New York
WJLA (1340 Kc.) Philadelphia
WJLV (1340 Kc.) New Haven
WJLV (1340 Kc.) Boston

LAST CALL
for
OFFICERS'
QUALIFICATION
COURSE

Inquire at Once!
at
ILGWU Education Dept.
1710 B'way, N.Y.C.

Labor Shortage May
Hit Undergarments
At Season's Height

A fast start into the new season has been made by the undergarment industry. It is reported by Vice Pres. Louis Stulberg, manager of Local 62, practically all undergarment factories are busy and workers are back at their machines after the summer seasonal swing and vacation period.

Numerous calls from employers have been received at the headquarters of Local 62 asking for skilled undergarment workers. This is only one indication that a peak-season shortage of labor may develop in the industry.

Observers attribute the present healthy state of the industry to the fact that there has been a decided downward adjustment in textile prices and to the further fact that

Tours and Classes
Lend Zest to Philly
Education Program

The passing of Labor Day heralds the start of the Philadelphia Dress Joint Board's extensive program of educational activities for the fall season. A complete schedule of interesting and informative classes and discussion sessions is being arranged by Abe Brilsky, educational director.

These will be supplemented by the traditional excursions to such places of interest as the Roosevelt estate at Hyde Park, N. Y., Valley Forge, Florida and Canada. The Education Department also will on the membership in participation in the entertainment of services in nearby hospitals. Brilsky stated. In fact, members are already signing for the visit to Valley Forge Hospital on Oct. 15 when the ILGWU contingent will stage a bingo party with refreshments for the wounded veterans hospitalized there. The Red Cross cooperates in these projects.

Office of the Education Department is located at 128 North 19th St., Philadelphia.

The manufacturing establishments in the industry no longer engage in the wartime practice of stockpiling goods for speculative purposes. Store inventories are at a low point due chiefly to retail purchasing policies and by new replacements are in high demand.

An American Looks at England



ILG teacher Julius Manson (right), who just returned from four months in Europe, gave members a bird's eye view of what the British government is doing in the way of health insurance, nationalization of industry, etc., at ILGWU headquarters last month. Fannie Cohen, Education Department secretary, chaired the meeting.

L. A. Cloak Officials
Heed Warning to Obey
Supervisor's Directives

Failure of Joseph Springer, manager of the Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board, to comply with directives issued by General Supervisor Morris Bagnio threatened to break up the organizational equilibrium established by a special committee of the

ILGWU General Executive Board following a complete investigation of the Los Angeles cloak and dress unions last March.

Among the unfavorable conditions accepted by the Cloak Joint Board at that time was compliance with organizational policy to be set and orders to be issued by International Supervisor Bagnio.

Acting in direct violation of these conditions, Manager Springer three weeks ago caused the withdrawal of three organizers designated by Bagnio and, without even notifying Bagnio, substituted choices of his own for three posts.

Pretexts by Supervisor Bagnio having proved of no avail, he pointed to Pres. Dubinsky, appealing to that branch of union policy, if allowed to stand, would throw out of gear the entire machinery of action central in Los Angeles.

A meeting of the New York members of the GIES on Aug. 30 promptly took up the challenging Los Angeles situation and forwarded, under the signature of Pres. Dubinsky, a telegraphic directive to Manager Springer and to joint board chairman Benjamin Bursky ordering them to "conform with the decisions of General Supervisor Morris Bagnio and, specifically, to refrain from any effort to place on the payroll of the Cloak Joint Board Frank Messina, Bob Burnside, Abe Tankenson, or anyone else not approved by the General Supervisor."

The finance department of the Cloak Joint Board was simultaneously notified not to place upon the payroll or use any of its funds whatsoever for any payment to the individuals named or any other persons not approved by the General Supervisor.

On Aug. 31, Pres. Dubinsky received a reply from Chairman Bursky confirming him that he had received the telegram and would "comply with all instructions." Manager Springer also wrote that "as per the decision of the joint board," Messina, Burnside and Tankenson have not been acting in organizational capacity "in view of the directive sent to me by Morris Bagnio on Aug. 29."

Education Program 1949-50

ILGWU Central Classes in New York City

Fun - Ideas - Fellowship: Your Union Card Admits You Free

Swim and Play

Games - Swimming
Gym - Basketball
at Textile High School,
18th St. between 8th & 9th Aves.
Tuesday evenings.
Starts on Sept. 27.

Indoor Tennis
At 36th Regiment Armory,
18th St. & 4th Ave.
Starts in January.

Handicrafts
At Local 40, 123 W. 22nd St.
Wed. and Thursday
5:30 to 9:30.

Think and Learn

Officers' Qualification
Courses
Mondays and Tuesdays at 6.

Esperanto
Mondays at 6.

Public Speaking
Tuesdays at 6.

Film Forums
Tuesdays at 6.

Marriage and Family
Problems
Wed. at 8 (Starts in Nov.)

Act and Dance

Music Appreciation
Wed. at 6:30.

Dancing
Thursdays at 6:30.

Dramatics
Emphasis on speech and dramatization of work problems.
Beginners and advanced.
Fridays at 6:30.

Unless otherwise stated, classes begin the week of Oct. 18 at ILGWU Studio, 1710 Broadway, N. Y. C.

EDUCATIONAL-RECREATIONAL CENTER (Textile High School, 18th St., between 8th and 9th Aves.) Discussion Group with Lectures on Current Problems in Rooms 306, 8th, swimming, etc., Thursdays at 6:30.

WATCH FOR: Art classes, theatre parties, Saturday Know-Your-City visits to points of interest, movies, lectures, panels and forums, folk dancing, museum trips, social hygiene lectures and many additional classes at your local union headquarters.

Join Up and Bring
Your Friends

For further information,
fill out the accompanying
form.

Educational Department,
International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union,
1710 Broadway, New York 19, N. Y.

I am interested in the following activities:

Name _____ Local No. _____
Address _____ Ledger No. _____

CUTTERS COLUMN

Isidore Nagler • Manager

The outlook as a whole for cutters is good as we assess the general situation. In all the garment trades the cutters are working. The level of activity in the cloak and dress trades is about the same as at this time last year, and the slump in some of the miscellaneous trades appears to be over.

Slumps in the underwear, blouse and children's dress trades are unusually busy.

Of course, the biggest part of fall production takes place in September and October. These two months will determine the outlook for the season as a whole.

As for general conditions over the country, it looks as though we are pulling out of the recent summer slump. Certain economic indicators are pointing upward. The production index is up several points and unemployment is down. An economic upturn will, of course, help to keep up demand for apparel and, therefore, employment and earnings.

Miscellaneous Dept.

The Miscellaneous Branch of Local 10, which is supervised by Assistant Manager Mos Falkman, has made considerable progress in recent years in extending its control over many shops. Today this department has over 2,000 members working in about 1,200 shops. In order to assure effective control over these shops and enforcement of union standards, it has become

LOCAL 10 MEMBERS
REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY
Sept. 26

Right after work
MANHATTAN CENTER
26th Street and 4th Avenue

necessary to appoint an additional business agent. It is particularly important to keep a sharp eye out for any infiltration of our regulations in the smaller contracting shops. We are particularly concerned that firm members do not try to do their own cutting, thereby depriving our members of their rightful share of work so they can earn a decent living.

There are, at present, two business agents who carry on their work directly from the office of Local 10. On the recommendation of the manager of the local, Mos Barrowick has been unanimously elected business agent by the executive board subject to the approval of the membership. He is an active and energetic member of the local and has served on the executive board for many years. We have every reason to expect that he will give a good account of himself in his new post.

And hats off to the Miscellaneous Branch for the steady progress that it has been making. This "NRA baby" has really grown in numbers and is now an important member of our union, taking its rightful place alongside our pioneer cloak branch and the well-organized dress branch. This trinity is the foundation and strength of Local 10.

GI's Pitch In

Local 10 is preparing to take an active part in the Liberal Party's campaign for the Morris-Edler District ticket. Already some of our young GI's have organized themselves to play their part in the general election of the Local 10 campaign. When our local, in cooperation with other unions, supported Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., these members showed their energy and ability by pitching in and doing a good job. With Labor Day past, let's all roll up our sleeves and go to work to elect a progressive city administration. We are aided by district leaders with unwavering world-wide assistance.

Cutting Up for Israel's Hospitals



Local 10 business agents join cutters emergency squad preparing material to be made into 25,000 garments for use by hospitals and other institutions maintained in Israel by Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization. Gathered around cutters' table are (left to right) Mos Barrowick, Irving Kaplan, Adolph Sonen, Bill West, and Abe Dolgen. (See story, Page 3.)

FINISHERS' \$30,000 GIFT SPLIT BETWEEN HISTADRUT AND JLC

Cloak finishers presented \$30,000 to Histadrut and \$10,000 to the Jewish Labor Committee at a meeting of the Local 9 executive board on Sept. 8. These sums were ruled through a \$3 contribution by each member.

Manager Louis Hyman, who presided at the check, stressed the finishers' constant interest in these overseas agencies. This contribution was in addition to their payments to the Cloak Joint Board Relief Tax. Members considered it a privilege to aid the needy abroad, Hyman said, and would continue to give every possible assistance.

General Manager Israel Peinberg congratulated the officers and members of Local 9 for their generous response to those in distress. The local, as part of the ILGWU family, was proudly demonstrating its fraternal solidarity with workers across the sea.

"The world cannot remain half slave and half free," Peinberg said, paraphrasing President Abraham Lincoln, "and to the extent that we put Europe on its feet, we are assisting a democratic reconstruction of the globe."

Vice Pres. Joseph Breslaw, manager of Local 35, described the efforts of the American Trade Union Council for Histadrut to enlist political, financial and moral support for the labor movement on behalf of a Jewish state in Palestine. The organization has received widespread cooperation from all parts of the country, Breslaw, who is chairman of the council, stated.

Pres. David Dubinsky contrasted the International's financial state just two decades ago with its position today. At that time its local unions were fortunate if they could provide funds for their own essential functions, not to speak of donations to others. In a relatively short period, the ILGWU has become an outstanding organization, strong in its own right and able to give freely to all worthwhile domestic and overseas causes. The constructive role of the International is made possible by the loyalty and devotion of its membership, he said.

Other speakers were Isaac Hamilton of the American Labor Committee for a Labor Israel, Nathan Chassin and Benjamin Tabachinsky of the Jewish Labor Committee, Sam Berman, chairman of the local, presided.

The American Medical Association spent \$250,000 from January to July, 1949 for lobbying.

CLAOK OUT-OF-TOWN

George Rubin • Manager

\$500 in CARE Parcels

Responding to an urgent appeal from the American Federation of Labor, the Cloak Out-of-Town Department has donated \$500 for the purchase of CARE food packages to be shipped to needy trade unionists in Europe.

With the free trade union movement in Western European countries beginning to overcome "the struggle against Communist domination," the AFL food packages are helping to build up the energy and morale of leading union members and their families in various localities and industries. The Cloak Out-of-Town packages will go to trade union families in Italy, France, Greece and other countries.

State AFL Conventions

Strife Cloak Out-of-Town delegations will attend the annual conventions of the New Jersey and Connecticut State Federations of Labor. Vice Pres. George Rubin will head both these delegations, which have prepared resolutions dealing with a number of problems.

The New Jersey convention, which will be held at Atlantic City from Sept. 26 to 29, will be attended by delegates from Local 135, Monmouth County, Local 132, Hudson County, Local 134, Paterson, Local 133, Newark, and Local 134, Passaic.

The Connecticut convention, scheduled in New Haven from Sept. 20 to 23, will draw delegates from Local 141, Bridgeport, and Local 147, Stamford.

Local 15's Guests

The recent 15th anniversary reception sponsored by Local 135 Newark, was attended by nearly 2,000 members, including delegations of guests from other locals of the Cloak Out-of-Town Department. On a chartered boat, this large assemblage of cloakmakers spent an entire day on the river, with a picnic lunch, swimming and ball games at Bay Beach. Arrangements were made by Business Agents Amosel Talorick and Sam Patis. Among the prominent guests were State Sen. Elmer J. West, Democratic candidate for Governor of New Jersey, and Congressmen Peter Rodino, Jr., and Hugh Addonizio.

N.Y. CLOAK MAKERS Retirement Applications Double in First Six Mos.

Applications for pensions from the Cloak Retirement Fund during the first six months of 1949 approximate the total for the entire year of 1948, according to an analysis submitted to the Board of Trustees last week by Herbert Zame, manager of the fund.

The semi-annual report, in the form of a series of statistical charts, reveals that there were 1,428 applicants for pensions in 1948, the year in which the retirement benefit was initiated, 637 applicants in 1947, 479 in 1946, and 405 as of June 30, 1949.

Of this grand total of 2,997 applicants, 1,796 were granted pensions. Rejections were reported, 68 before processing was completed and 1,066 are awaiting further action.

Retired cloakmakers constitute 33 per cent of the organized workers in the industry. One thousand five hundred and eighty-three are men and 207 are women. Subsequent to retirement, some 270 die.

The distribution of retired cloakmakers by locals is as follows:

Local	Number	Percentage
117	565	32.68
9	221	12.53
10	77	4.30
23	25	1.40
35	429	23.97
202	15	0.75
64	12	.73
82	35	1.96
Out of Town	23	1.28

Heads Newburgh Labor

James V. Cianciola, vice chairman of the executive board of Local 165, Newburgh, N. Y., last month was elected president of the Newburgh Central Labor Union, coordinating body of all AFL groups in that city. A pioneer, Cianciola has long been an active member of Local 165.

CLOAK JOINT BOARD

FEINBERG WARNS ON SHOP DEALS IN TALK AT BROOKLYN OFFICE

Several hundred Brooklyn shop chairmen heard General Manager Israel Feinberg warn against any shop deals aimed to weaken union standards, at a meeting last month at the borough office of the joint board.

The essential soundness of the coat and suit industry was stressed by Feinberg, who insisted that there was no reason for a recession. He called upon the Brooklyn workers to maintain the conditions achieved at the cloakmakers after decades of struggles. Workers and employers reaching secret arrangements for reduced price settlements would be severely punished for undermining the contractual agreement, he said.

Other speakers were Anthony Oskone, manager of the Brooklyn office, and Howard Molloy, executive secretary of Local 48, Samuel Zeldin, assistant manager of the Brooklyn territory, served as chairman.

Cloak Finishers Allot \$30,000



Pres. Dubinsky (center) was a speaker at ceremonies marking distribution of checks totaling \$30,000 contributed by Local 9 members to be divided between Histadrut and Jewish Labor Committee. Left to right: Israel Feinberg, Cloak Joint Board manager; Benjamin Tabachinsky, JLC representative; Local 9 Chairman Sam Berman; Dubinsky; Louis Hyman, Local 9 manager; Joseph Breslaw, Local 35 manager; and Isaac Hamilton of National Committee for Labor Relief. (See story.)

Age of the members upon retirement ranged from 63 through 84. The breakdown shows:

Age	Number
63-66	324
67-68	362
69-70	250
71-72	237
73-74	156
75-76	87
77-78	29
79-80	14
81-82	6
83-84	5

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Labor-Farmer Unity

The reactionary wing of the country's press and its radio confederates, with the McCormick-Hearst axis in the van, as usual, has been fuming and frothing over President Truman's two Labor Day speeches.

The President has set out to build a farmer-labor vote alliance for 1950, the Tories are lamenting. Last week Truman actually fired the first gun in next year's campaign, they aver.

In truth, it should be admitted that the President's speeches were not sermons of the typical Labor Day pattern, the kind which drape a halo over the worker and invest him with near-gaunt virtues. In his Pittsburgh talk, Truman promised a "fight to the finish" to enact his full program including repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act. In Des Moines, the pit of the farm belt, he reasserted his credo that the "little man"—in the factory and on the farm—is the country's backbone and draped a continued alliance between labor and the farmer, the combination which helped him so sensationally to win the Presidency last November.

Even more succinctly than the President, Secretary of Agriculture Brannan had put the issue of farmer-labor collaboration squarely on the political agenda in a speech that same day before a Chicago gathering of the AFL's Labor's League for Political Education.

Said Secretary Brannan: "The hope of the nation lies in understanding, not only between farmers and workers but among all groups. . . . No one group can expect to sell dear and buy cheap." Prosperity is the concern of all the people.

"But since the workers and farmers constitute by far the majority of the American people, the responsibility for our national future rests particularly in their hands."

"Together let workers and farmers unite in achieving a full-employment, full-production economy. Let them unite upon a realistic floor under farm prices and an equally realistic floor under wages. . . . Half of the money American consumers spend for goods and services goes for products that originate on farms."

"From the economic standpoint, therefore, farmers and workers have every reason for unity."

This "plot" to unite the labor and farmer vote behind a genuine liberal program and a liberal concept of national government, as bluntly espoused by the President and ably seconded by Secretary Brannan, is no pleasant news for the politicians in both parties who cannot divorce themselves from the hoary idea that only the "better people" can be entrusted with the running of the nation's affairs.

The very thought that city workers and farmers, composing as they do the great majority of the American people, could assume the responsibility for the nation's future, must be anathema to the Wherrys, the Tafts, the Joe Martinis, the Charley Halletts and to the Congressional bourgeois from the South who for reasons of political geography only still classify themselves as Democrats.

They will, no doubt, leave no stone unturned in trying to rebuild the crumbling barrier which for too many years past had stood between city wage-earners and the farm population. Already Sen. Taft, who has just embarked on a three-month political ride across Ohio to mend his own shaky fences for next year's election, is reported to be concentrating on the objective of weaning farmers away from contaminated ideas of unity with city labor.

The farmer-labor electoral kinship, long the dream of American liberalism, however, is pretty much under way already, it seems to us. And if the classic American maxim that success begets success holds true also in the nation's political experience, this farmer-labor collaboration can hardly be halted. What effect on party lineups and alliances it may have in the immediate future is difficult to forecast. That it will increase tremendously liberal weight and sway in the land can hardly be doubted even at this hour.

"What Are You Trying to Do—Sink Us?!"



"The Sleep-Walker"



Pins & Needles

M. D. Danish

THE first major revision of the Wage-Hour Act since the law was passed in 1938, hiking the minimum wage from 40 to 75 cents an hour, is practically certain to be passed at this session of Congress.

Still, as one leading business journal gloatingly put it, "President Truman is to get the 75-cent minimum wage he requested, but at a price." Congress, we are reminded, voted along with this revision, to take away wage and overtime benefits from thousands of workers formerly covered.

This, unfortunately, is true. The increase in the legal minimum will mean wage increases to some 1,300,000 low-paid workers, it is estimated. In the final bill that will go to President Truman for signature, it is figured, however, that about 200,000 workers employed in small shops of a chiefly service nature may be exempted.

On the other hand, and this obviously hurts the opponents of the wage revision most, this upping of the minimum is bound to result in pay raises for large numbers of higher-paid workers who normally receive increases when lower-paid groups are moved upward.

The President, it is clear, is not getting all he asked for in the way of wage-hour changes. In addition to a 75-cent minimum he wanted more workers brought under the act, not fewer. Further attempts to broaden coverage of the act must now wait until the next session of Congress.

OHIO unionists, farmers and plain folk won't need any special help from the outside to return Sen. Robert A. Taft to his supine private law offices in Cincinnati. They can take care of that by themselves and strictly on their own record.

Joseph D. Keenan, national director of Labor's League for Political Education, the political arm of the AFL, made this plain in a speech at a picnic rally attended by some 7,000 AFL members in Cleveland on Labor Day.

Taft supporters in Ohio, remembering that he had barely pulled through in the 1944 election, are not too optimistic about his 1950 chances. It would appear, in order to arouse some home-state feeling for the Senator, they have been playing up rumors that major unions from all parts of the land are sending delegations into Ohio next year in an effort to seal Taft's doom.

"That is just a lot of bunk," Keenan told his big Cleveland audience. "The people here are smart and intelligent

and they don't need any outsiders to tell them what they want."

IN a broadcast over our own WFDR, Eddie Cantor, fresh from an extended European trip, declared: "Communism has nothing, and the very fact that they need dollars in Russia and won't permit tourists to come in shows how weak they are. . . . They don't want a million tourists to come in and spend hundreds of millions of dollars because they don't want the Russians to see how much we have got. . . ."

Cantor predicts that our "Voice of America" will finally break through the air-block behind the Soviet stone-wall provided we pour in enough power to sustain our daily chats with the Russian people. We find it difficult, however, to go along with Brother Cantor when he blandly asserts that "Stalin himself does not know what's going on in America—he needs the Voice of America."

It sounds very much like that "good old Joe" stuff President Truman used to pour out not so long ago in a good-will-to-mankind mood before the wily Georgian revealed his double-edged fangs. Only a wishful thinker—which Eddie Cantor probably is—could talk himself into believing that Mr. Stalin, at 69, would or could change his serpentine ways.

FROM West Germany comes the uneasy news that since the Aug. 15 elections a pack of hidden Nazis have crawled out of their lairs and are swamping the publishing business.

So insistent has this "reawakening" of crypto-Hitlerites become that the British and the American High Commissioners were last week compelled to warn the eight minister-presidents of the "Länder" within the Western occupation zones to keep a watchful eye on the Nazi poison-pen wielders.

How far such warnings may go toward halting the spread of old-line Nazism in Germany—East or West—is anybody's speculation. It's no secret, however, that the Nazi element and the other reactionary groups all over Germany are profiting from the unbridgeable chasm between the Soviet rule in the East and the democratic administrations in the West.

Our own guess is that warnings alone will make scant impression on Nazism anywhere. Something with sharp teeth on its business end will be needed to penetrate the tough minds and kinds of that breed.